

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 THE HA 03829 300957Z

14

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

SCI-06 OMB-01 SS-15 HEW-08 RSR-01 /119 W

----- 094382

P R 300842Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

SECSTATE WASHDC 1916

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 3829

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, NL, UN

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS SITUATION--NETHERLANDS

REF: (A) GENEVA 3623 (B) STATE 170240 (C) HAGUE A-129 OF
6/27/73 (NOTAL)

1. REF (C) PROVIDES RECENT REVIEW OF NARCOTICS PICTURE IN THE NETHERLANDS AND CAN SERVE AS BASIS FOR BRIEFING DITTERT (INCB) ON CURRENT SITUATION HERE. COPY OF REF (C) BEING POUCHED US MISSION GENEVA AND LONDON. HOWEVER, SINCE POUCH COPY IS UNLIKELY TO REACH GENEVA PRIOR DITTERT DEPARTURE, MAIN POINTS REF C INCLUDED BELOW. PRESUME AMEMBASSY LONDON CAN MAKE CONTENTS OF REF C AVAILABLE TO DITTERT IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

2. RE OPIATES, THERE NO EVIDENCE THAT PRODUCTION OR PROCESSING TAKING PLACE IN THE NETHERLANDS. TRAFFICKING, HOWEVER, DOES TAKE PLACE AND APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN GROWING SIGNIFICANTLY IN LAST 6 TO 9 MONTHS.

3. HEROIN SEIZED TO DATE IN NETHERLANDS IS MOSTLY LOW-QUALITY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 THE HA 03829 300957Z

PRODUCT OF FAR EASTERN ORIGIN. WHILE THERE HAS BEEN REFERENCE

TO "HONG-KONG-NETHERLANDS CONNECTION" IN A RECENT U.S. CONGRESSIONAL STUDY, THERE NO HARD EVIDENCE THAT BULK OF HEROIN REACHING NETHERLANDS ORIGINATED IN OR IS FUNNELLED THROUGH HONG KONG. EMBASSY SUSPECTS THAT INDIVIDUAL CHINESE SEAMEN MAY NOW BE BRINGING QUANTITIES OF HEROIN AND DISPOSING OF DRUG THROUGH CHINESE CONTACTS IN NETHERLANDS. OTHER (NON-SEAMEN) ETHNIC CHINESE WHO ENTER NETHERLANDS AND REMAIN ILLEGALLY APPEAR TO BE ADDITIONAL SOURCE OF SUPPLY. ARRESTS OF ETHNIC CHINESE MALAYSIAN TOURISTS IN BELGIUM ENROUTE TO NETHERLANDS IN JANUARY, LATE JULY AND MID-AUGUST THIS YEAR, INVOLVING AVERAGE SEIZURE OF ABOUT 2 KILOS OF HEROIN IN EACH CASE, SUGGESTS DRUGS PROBABLY NOT INTENDED ENTIRELY FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION, SINCE HEROIN ADDICT POPULATION HERE STILL RELATIVELY SMALL, ALTHOUGH INCREASING. ARREST OF THREE AMCITS IN AMSTERDAM AUGUST 19 IN POSSESSION OF 175 GRAMS HEROIN FOR INTENDED EXPORT AND SALE IN U.S. TENDS TO CONFIRM IMPRESSION THAT HEROIN READILY AVAILABLE, GIVEN FACT THAT AMCITS IN QUESTION APPEAR NOT BE CONNECTED WITH ANY RIG AND EASE WITH WHICH THEY APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN ABLE OBTAIN NARCOTICS (FROM CHINESE COOK IN LOCAL RESTAURANT).

4. AT PRESENT THERE IS NO OVERALL GON POLICY ON DRUGS. NEW GOVT HAS BEFORE IT REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN JULY 1972 BY PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION, BUT DEBATE PROBABLY WILL NOT TAKE PLACE BEFORE EARLY 1974. COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE PARTIAL DECRIMINALIZATION OF DRUG USE BY MAKING SAME MISDEMEANORS RATHER THAN FELONY AND ESTABLISHMENT, ON EXPERIMENTAL 2-YEAR BASIS, OF SYSTEM FOR DEALING WITH DRUG USE ON NON-CRIMINAL BASIS. EMBASSY EXPECTS DEBATE WILL PROBABLY RESULT IN ADOPTION THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS.

5. "OPIUM LAW" (COPIES BEING FURNISHED GENEVA, LONDON) GOVERNS PRODUCTION, USE, DISTRIBUTION, ETC. OF CANNABIS AND COCA PRODUCTS AS WELL AS OPIATES AND PROVIDES (SECTION 10) FOR MAXIMUM 4-YEAR SENTENCE ON CONVICTION FOR SPECIFIED OFFENSES, INCLUDING PRODUCTION, POSSESSION, USE, IMPORT AND EXPORT. IN PRACTICE, ENFORCEMENT OF LAW RE "SOFT" DRUG USE HAS BEEN LAX (CONSUMPTION OF HASH AND MARIJUANA IS OFFICIALLY SANCTIONED IN TWO PUBLIC ESTABLISHMENTS IN AMSTERDAM WITH INTENT OF GETTING SOFT DRUG USERS OFF THE STREETS) BUT TRAFFICKING IS DEALT WITH STRICTLY. AMPHETAMINES AND BARBITURATES, NOT COVERED UNDER OPIUM LAW, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 THE HA 03829 300957Z

HAVE BEEN PLACED UNDER EXPORT/IMPORT ACT WHICH PROVIDES MAXIMUM SIX-YEAR SENTENCE FOR ILLICIT TRAFFICKING.

6. DUTCH ARE MOST COOPERATIVE IN EXCHANGING INFO/INTELLIGENCE AND IN 1972 MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ESTABLISHED CENTRAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION AND INFORMATION SERVICE (CRID) WITH FOUR-MAN NARCOTICS DIVISION. CRID, HOWEVER, IS NOT OPERATIONALLY ORIENTED BUT FUNCTIONS MORE AS INFO CLEARINGHOUSE.

7. IN GENERAL, DUTCH HAVE VIEWED NARCOTICS PROBLEM FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE THAN, SAY, U.S. AND FRENCH. THE DUTCH ARE PREOCCUPIED MORE BY SOCIAL/REHABILITATIVE ASPECTS THAN CONTROL OF TRAFFICKING, ALTHOUGH TRAFFICKING ASPECT HAS BEEN ASSUMING GRAVER DIMENSIONS AND HAS BEGUN PROOCCUPY SEGMENTS OF GENERAL PUBLIC AS WELL AS MANY OFFICIALS. HOWEVER, IT UNLIKELY THAT SIGNIFICANTLY GREATER RESOURCES WILL BE DEVOTED TO CONTROL ASPECTS UNLESS AND UNTIL PROBLEM OF HARD-DRUG ABUSE IN NETHERLANDS PROPER BECOMES AGGRAVATED OR NETHERLANDS BECOMES SIGNIFICANT BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR TRAFFICKERS.

8. NOTE: DUTCH HEALTH OFFICIAL WHO WILL BE MEETING WITH DITTERT IS R.J. SAMSON, JR., NOT SAMPSON AS INDICATED REF A.
TANGUY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973THEHA03829
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS TANGUY
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973084/aaaaacsa.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) GENEVA 3623 (B) STATE 170240 (C)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <14-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NARCOTICS SITUATION--NETHERLANDS
TAGS: SNAR, NL, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005